

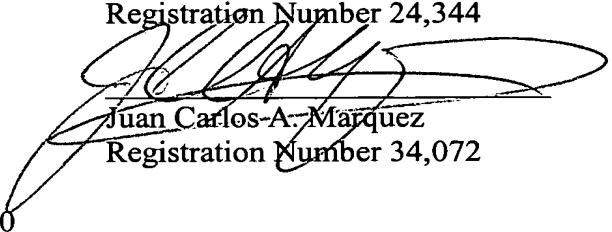
**REMARKS**

The above amendments to the above-captioned application are being submitted. In view of the above amendments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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**April 25, 2006**

SPF/JCM/JT